GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5847
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
GAUGE CONVERSION OF BIJAPUR-GADAG RAIL LINE
RUDRAGOUDA PATIL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gauge conversion work between Bijapur and Gadag via Bagalkot is pending for more than ten years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that one MOU had been signed between the Government ofKarnataka and the then Railway Minister Ms. Mamta Banerjee to take up this gauge conversion work;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which this long pending work is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a): No, Sir.

(b) to (d): A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with the StateGovernment of Karnataka for formation of a Joint Venture for execution of four projects including gauge conversion of Bijapur-Gadag section.

As per the terms of the MOU, a Company named Rail Infrastructure DevelopmentCompany (Karnataka) Ltd.(K-RIDE) has been incorporated. Ministry of Railways and the Government of Karnataka will have equity holdings in the company.

Completion of gauge conversion of Bijapur-Gadag section will depend upon the availability of resources.